



Useful Collaborative Learning Strategies

Working together with others provides authentic contexts for children to learn and apply values, social and emotional competencies and learning dispositions, such as turn-taking, finding out about others' strengths and learning to respect others' opinions.

Some useful collaborative learning strategies are:

Think-Pair-Share

Steps

- 1 Set a task or ask a question and give children time to think about the question.
- 2 Ask children to pair with a partner to discuss their responses.
- 3 Ask children to share their ideas with the whole class.

Pairs Check

Steps

- 1 Divide the class into pairs and give each pair an activity sheet.
- 2 Have Child 1 in each pair work on the activity sheet while Child 2 acts as the coach to watch and assist.
- 3 Encourage Child 2 to praise Child 1 if he/she agrees with Child 1's response. If they disagree, encourage the pair to review the response.
- 4 Have the partners exchange roles for the next activity and repeat steps 2 and 3.



Round Robin

Steps

- 1 Divide the class into small groups.
- 2 Set a task or ask a question and give children time to think about the question.
- 3 Ask each child within a group to take turns to share their responses with one another in a specific order after the “think time”.

Numbered Heads Together

Steps

- 1 Divide the class into small groups.
- 2 Assign a number to each child in a group.
- 3 Set a task and say, “*Put your heads together and think of ...*”.
- 4 Give children time to discuss as a group and make sure that all group members know the group’s response.
- 5 Call a number at random and ask the child with that number to share his/her group’s response.



Peer-assisted Learning

Steps

- 1 Group children with mixed abilities in pairs or small groups.
- 2 Have the pairs or groups work together to complete a task.
- 3 Give children some time to think back on how each member contributed to the completion of the task.
- 4 Have each member thank each other for playing a part in the completion of the task.